



News From

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, September 21, 2001

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BIGGERT NAMED TO “DRUG FREE AMERICA” TASK FORCE

Spotlight on illegal drug trade, worldwide terrorism

Clarendon Hills, Illinois – Rep. Judy Biggert (R-13th) has been named to the “Speaker’s Task Force on a Drug Free America.”

“The illegal drug trade is the financial bloodline of many global terrorist organizations, including Osama Bin Laden,” said Biggert. “By zeroing in on these drug rings with every resource at our command, we can help disrupt and defeat attacks against the United States before they take place.”

The Task Force, which will advise Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-14th) on national drug policy, will also target the demand for drugs in our communities.

“More than 16,000 Americans – many of them children – die each year from drug abuse,” said Biggert. “It is our moral obligation to not only keep drugs out of our neighborhoods and schools, but also to educate our children early in life about the perils of substance abuse.”

Illegal drugs also affect our penal system. Rep. Biggert recently co-sponsored a bill (H.R. 2580) that authorizes federal funding for first-time, non-violent drug offenders to participate in rigorous drug treatment programs as an alternative to spending time in prison.

“Some offenders simply slip and fall and truly want to avoid a life of crime and drugs,” said Biggert. “What they need – and get from this bill – is a rigorous program of mandatory drug treatment that returns them to society with a better perspective on life.”

As part of H.R. 2580, the drug treatment program will be modeled after a similar one instituted by the District Attorney’s office in Brooklyn, New York, where the prosecutor can send offenders to jail if they violate strict guidelines.

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